(c) the total length of rural connectivity provided under the NREGA since its inception; and

(d) the total expenditure involved under this type of work under the NREGA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir. Rural connectivity to provide all-weather access is a permissible activity under NREGA. There is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government to take out this activity from the list of recommended types of works under NREGA.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Total length of rural connectivity provided under NREGA and the total expenditure incurred during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 (up to January, 2008) is as under:

Year	Total works taken up under rural connectivity	Rural connectivity created	Expenditure incurred (Rs. in crores)
2006-07	179681	2.37 lakh kms.	1769.08
2007-08	234340	3.09 lakh kms.	1838.46

Safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in schools

1362. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre proposes to provide safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in schools in the country by 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the status of Orissa in this sector; and

(d) what is the time-frame within which all the schools in Orissa would be covered under the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Water is a State subject and State Governments are responsible to provide drinking water to the rural areas. To supplement the efforts of the State, financial assistance is provided to the States through Centrally sponsored, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The State Governments are competent to plan, sanction and implement rural water supply schemes from the funds provided under ARWSP. New schools in rural areas are covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Ministry of Human Resource Development. States have been impressed upon to cover all the schools by the end of 2007-08 with drinking water and sanitation facilities.

Regarding sanitation facilities, as part of the "Total Sanitation Campaign", proposals for construction of toilets in all rural schools have been approved for 582 districts. The proposal nvisages to provide at least one unit each for each of the schools and separate toilets for oys and girls in co-educational schools. So far 5,25,625 school toilet units have been nstructed.

(c) and (d) In Orissa, 1,401 rural schools were without drinking water facilities as on 1.4.2007 out of which 600 rural schools have been reported to be covered with drinking water facilities. In respect of sanitation, 68,328 toilet units have been approved in 30 districts of which 30,997 units have been constructed so far.

Extension of NREGS in the country

1363. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to extend the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ground work to extend the scheme has been completed;

(d) the funds earmarked for the purpose; and

(e) the number of additional families likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has decided to extend NREGS to all the remaining rural areas in the country with effect from 1.4.2008. A notification to this effect was issued on 28.9.2007.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. States have been directed to take up preparatory arrangements for new districts like IEC, printing and procurement of statutory documents, training of offcials and non-officials and preparation of perspective plans. A sum of Rs, 163.12 crore has been released to the States for the purpose.

(e) NREGS is demand driven. All rural households are entitled to get employment under the Act on demand. It is, therefore, not possible to make an estimate of the additional families likely to be covered.

Accountability of money sanctioned under different schemes

1364. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in some States huge amount of money has gone unaccounted and tardy implementation of schemes has been reported in these States;

(b) if so, how many States have been reported poor performance;

(c) what mechanism has been developed by the Centre to see that money sanctioned does not go unaccounted;

(d) whether Government has made any evaluation of existing schemes, if so, the details thereof, and what shortcomings have been noticed; and

(e) how many people have been benefited so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The guidelines of the rural development